

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MORPETH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1967



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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the Morpeth Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you the report of the Medical Officer of Health and that of the Chief Public Health Inspector for the year 1967. Dr. McGregor retired at the end of March 1968, too early to compile and present this report to you.

The vital statistics during 1967 on the whole showed a very satisfactory trend. There was an increase in the number of births from 232 to 247, giving a standard birth-rate of 14.9, but unfortunately there were 7 still-births during the year, increasing the still-birth rate to 28 per 1,000 live and stillbirths. Two infants died before they had reached one week old, giving a marked reduction in the infantile mortality rate from 25.86 in 1966, to 8.0 in 1967, compared with the national rate of 18.3.

There was a reduction in the number of deaths which occurred in the rural district from 200 in 1966, to 169 in 1967. The standard death-rate of 10.43 was lower than the national figure of 11.2. Diseases of the heart and circulation were by far the most important cause of death. Deaths from malignant neoplasms decreased from 40 in 1966 to 29 in 1967, giving a death-rate of 1.61 per 1,000 of the population which was lower than the national figure of 2.275. The death-rate for malignant neoplasms of the lung and bronchus was 0.502, also lower than the national figure of 0.584. Deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system fell from 29 in 1966 to 17 in 1967.

Only one new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified during the year, but there were 2 deaths from this form of the disease. There were 230 cases on the register at the end of 1967; a reduction of 3 on the previous year.

The unexpected outbreak of measles which occurred in the rural district in 1966 continued into 1967 and over 100 cases were notified in the first quarter of the year, after which time the outbreak subsided. It was followed by an epidemic of dysentery during the summer months. In all, 77 cases of the disease were notified and these occurred mainly in the Pegswood area, although 20 cases scattered throughout the year, were notified from an institution. Valiant work was done by the institution staff to prevent spread of the infection, both inside and outside the building, and the infection appeared to have been successfully contained, since no contact cases were notified in the surrounding district.

The epidemic in Pegswood began with the notification of a six year old boy, in May. Pegswood School was visited and advice was given regarding the infection and the prevention of its spread. During June and July 47 cases of dysentery were notified, pre-school children, school children and adults being affected. The main source of infection appeared to be the Infant School. The canteen staff and staff of the central cooking depot were investigated for carriers of the disease, but none was found. Parents tended to blame the school toilets for the spread of infection, but the toilets were kept clean and well disinfected. Children suffering from dysentery were kept out of school until they had two consecutive, negative specimens, but it was found that they were not isolated from other children while at home, so the infection continued to spread. Until parents realise the importance of toilet hygiene, this disease will always be a nuisance in the community, and the onus for the prevention of these outbreaks must rest on parents.

Only one case of food-poisoning, in which the causal organism was salmonella typhimurium, was notified during 1967. Owing to there being a considerable lapse of time between the onset and date of diagnosis, it was impossible to form any definite opinion as to the source of infection, although from the case history, it seemed probable that the infection was acquired outside the rural district.

Finally I must record that the loyal support of the Public Health Inspectors, the work of the Health Department Clerk and the interest and support of members of the Council were greatly appreciated during the year.

I am,
Mr. Chairman and Councillors,
Your obedient Servant,
K. Dick, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health,
Rural District of Morpeth.

Chairman of the Council

COUNCILLOR W.B.P. COLEMAN, J.P.

Chairman of the Public
Health Committee

COUNCILLOR T.P.H. SANDERSON

Officers of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health

CATHERINE B. MCGREGOR,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer

KATHLEEN DICK,
M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
(Housing & Meat)

W.G. WEBB,
R.S.I., S.I.J.B.,
MEAT INSPECTOR'S CERTS.

Public Health Inspector

J.T. NICHOLSON,
R.S.I., S.I.J.B.,
MEAT INSPECTOR'S CERTS.

Offices of the Medical Officer,

156, Woodhorn Road, Ashington.

Clerk to the Medical Officer

Mrs. C. Sampson (resigned July 1967)
Miss M. Gibson(commenced Aug. ")

Telephone

Ashington 2287/3442

Offices of the P.H. Inspector

Dacre Street, Morpeth.

Clerk to the P.H. Inspector

Miss L. Dickinson

Telephone

Morpeth 3255

Area in Acres 79,18 8

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population
mid-1967 17,910

Rateable Value £592,137

One Penny Rate Produces £2,422

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1967) 5,780

Total number of houses owned by Local Authority 1,636

VITAL STATISTICS.

(The figures in brackets are for England and Wales)

Births

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	233	115	118
Illegitimate	14	8	6
	247	123	124

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 13.8
Standard Birth Rate (Crude Birth Rate x Comparability
Factor 1.08 per 1,000 14.9 (17.2)

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	7	6	1

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 28. (14.7)

Deaths

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
169	93	76

Crude Death Rate 9.4
Standard Death Rate (Crude Death Rate x Comparability
Factor 1.11) per 1,000 10.43 (11.2)
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar-
General's Short List) Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion. Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births Nil (0.20)

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	2	1	1

All infants per 1,000 live births 8.0 (18.3)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 8.58
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	2	1	1

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	2	1	1

Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths of infants under 4 weeks
per 1,000 live births) 8.09 (12.5)
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per
1,000 live births 8.09
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under
1 week per 1,000 live and still births 35

CAUSES OF DEATH IN AGE GROUPS

		Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	AGE IN YEARS	75 & over
									25- 35- 45- 55- 65-	
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
		F	10	-	-	-	-	-	3	4
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	M	26	-	-	-	-	-	12	9
		F	18	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
20	Other Heart Disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
		F	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
21	Other Circulatory Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
23	Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
24	Bronchitis	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN AGE GROUPS

		Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
31	Congenital Malformations	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
32	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	8	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	3
		F	9	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	3
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	All Other Accidents	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES:	M	93	1	-	-	-	2	-	3	8	10	32	37
		F	76	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	5	23	33

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	Under 1 day	1 - 6 days	1 week	2 weeks	3 weeks	Total under 4 wks.	1 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 11 months	Total under 1 year
Birth Injury	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2

The following table give the comparative mortality rates during the past ten years.

	'58	'59	'60	'61	'62	'63	'64	'65	'66	'67
Infantile deaths under 1 yr.	11	7	15	4	5	11	4	2	6	2
Infantile Mortality	33.03	23.33	51.9	14.87	16.78	38.6	13.03	7.35	25.86	8.0

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN MORPETH RURAL DISTRICT

	Total Number	% of Total Deaths
Diseases of the Heart and Circulation	76	44.9
Malignant Neoplasms	29	17.16
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	17	10.1
Total	122	72.16

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Newcastle General Hospital undertakes a very wide range of bacteriological, virological, serological and biological examinations free of charge to local authorities and general practitioners.

The Pathology Department at Ashington Hospital provides a more limited service of bacteriological examinations.

The extent to which these facilities have been utilised is shown below:-

Specimen sent by	Specimen	Result	
		Pos.	Neg.
Medical Officer of Health	Faeces for pathogenic organisms	81	187
General Practitioner	" " "	37	3
Regional Hospital Board Physician	" "	37	57
Medical Officer - Royal Air Force	" "	3	3
78 Sensitivity tests were carried out.			

Ambulance Service.

This is provided by Northumberland County Council with ambulances stationed at Broomhill, Morpeth and Ashington with 27 drivers and 3 station officers employed. A car service, with cars hired from local garage owners is used in the more isolated country areas.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council has purpose-built clinics at Broomhill and Widdrington where a full range of services is provided. Rented premises are used for certain services at Pegswood, Lynemouth, Hartburn and Acklington.

Many residents in the Rural District are able to use the County's clinic in Morpeth Borough.

Meals on Wheels.

This service, operated by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, with financial aid from the Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee, Morpeth Rural District Council and the County Council, continued to run smoothly during the year and the total number of meals distributed was 1,683.

Chiropody Service.

The chiropody service continued to be used by the senior citizens of the community.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease is provided by the Regional Hospital Board at Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

TABLE SHOWING ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNDER AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 54 years	55 - 64 years	65 - 74 years	75 years & over	Age unknown	TOTAL
Dysentery	3	5	12	24	6	8	11	3	1	1	1	1	4	77
Primary Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	6	21	38	52	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	121
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Total	11	27	50	78	11	8	12	5	1	1	1	-	4	209

IMMUNISATION.

This was carried out in the child welfare clinics and for the first time in large numbers, by the general practitioners.

The record of immunisations completed is not, now available for Morpeth Rural, alone, but refers to the whole of the Central Area of the County.

In the Central Area in 1967, 912 children completed a primary course of triple antigen, while a further 89 completed a course of diphtheria/tetanus injections.

In addition, 199 older children, not protected in infancy against tetanus, received a primary course of treatment with tetanus vaccine alone.

Re-inforcing injections against diphtheria were given to 2,388 children, against whooping cough to 863 children and against tetanus to 2,217 children.

Poliomyelitis Immunisation.

For the ninth consecutive year, no case of this disease occurred in the Rural District.

In 1967, the number of children who completed a primary course was 958, which compares favourably with the previous year's total of 787.

The number of children receiving a 'booster' dose during the year increased from 1,726 in 1966 to 1,783 in 1967.

The immunisation campaign must continue to be actively pursued, to prevent the resurgence of diphtheria and poliomyelitis and the occurrence of dreaded tetanus.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1967

	New cases					Deaths				
	Resp.		Non-Resp		Tot	Resp		Non-Resp		Tot
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1
65 - 74 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
75 years & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	2

Only one new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified during the year.

There were two deaths attributed to the respiratory form of the disease

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District 0.11 per 1,000

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in England and Wales 0.037 per 1,000

Death rate from non-respiratory tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District Nil

Death rate from non-respiratory tuberculosis in England and Wales 0.005 per 1,000

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

The Registrar-General's figures have been used in calculating the death-rates given below.

Malignant Neoplasms of the Lung and Bronchus.

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 0.502 per 1,000
Death Rate in England and Wales 0.584 per 1,000

Malignant Neoplasms of All Other Sites

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 1.11 per 1,000
Death Rate in England and Wales 1.691 per 1,000

Malignant Neoplasms of All Sites.

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 1.61 per 1,000
Death Rate in England and Wales 2.275 per 1,000

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year ended 31st December, 1967.

Water Supplies.

With the exception that 3.36% of dwellings in the rural district obtain water from private sources, the area is served by the water undertaking of the Tynemouth County Borough Council.

The supply is of good quality, adequate in quantity and is described as being:-

"A moderate hard supply with a natural flouride content varying from 0.1 to 0.2 parts per million and a lead solvency of 0.2 parts per million."

Samples from the public supply and from the several private sources were collected throughout the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for biological examination.

The following list gives the date and place of collection together with the result obtained in each case.

Public Supply - Tynemouth Water Undertaking.

No.	Date	Place of collection	Result	
			No. of Coliform Bacilli per 100ml. of water	
4.	10. 1.67.	No. 3. Cottage, High Angerton, Morpeth.		Nil
7.	17. 1.67.	1 Agricultural Cottages, Netherwitton, Morpeth.		Nil
8.	17. 1.67.	3 Agrucultural Cottages, Netherwitton, Morpeth.		Nil
9.	31. 1.67.	No. 3 New Cottages, Mitford, Morpeth.		Nil
11.	31. 1.67.	Northside Cottages, Meldon, Morpeth.		Nil
12.	31. 1.67.	Hartburn Cottage, Morpeth.		Nil
14.	7. 2.67.	Pigdon Road, Fairmoor, Morpeth.		Nil
20.	14. 2.67.	Hedley Wood, Longhorsley, Morpeth.		Nil
25.	28. 2.67.	3 Second Row, Linton Colliery, Morpeth.		Nil
26.	28. 2.67.	3 Ellington Village, Morpeth.		Nil
27.	28. 2.67.	6 Second Row, Ellington Colliery, Morpeth.		Nil
30.	7. 3.67.	Causey Park Bridge, House, Morpeth.		Nil
37.	4. 4.67.	The Cottage, Stanton, Morpeth.		Nil
38.	4. 4.67.	Longwitton Hall, Morpeth.		Nil
39.	4. 4.67.	Longwitton Hall, Morpeth.		Nil
40.	4. 4.67.	Post Office, Longwitton, Morpeth.		Nil
43.	18. 4.67.	Hemelspeth, Felton, Morpeth.		Nil
45.	25. 4.67.	7 Longhirst Village, Morpeth.		Nil
46.	25. 4.67.	16 Straker Terrace, Longhirst Colliery, Morpeth.		Nil
47.	25. 4.67.	6 Grangewood, Stobswood Colliery, Morpeth.		Nil
48.	25. 4.67.	Westbrook, Ulgham, Morpeth.		Nil
52.	2. 5.67.	North Birks, Longhorsley, Morpeth.		Nil
53.	16. 5.67.	8 Oakford, Scots Gap, Morpeth.		Nil
54.	16. 5.67.	3 Back Row, Cambo, Morpeth.		Nil
55.	16. 5.67.	Elf Hills, Cambo, Morpeth.		Nil
58.	23. 5.67.	Netherwitton Hall, Morpeth.		Nil
64.	4. 7.67.	"Perstain" Fairmoor, Morpeth.		Nil
68.	11. 7.67.	Agricultural Cottage, Hebron, Morpeth.		Nil
69.	11. 7.67.	South View, Tritlington, Morpeth.		Nil
71.	11. 7.67.	Peigh Hills, Earsdon, Morpeth.		Nil
72.	25. 7.67.	5 Boland Terrace, Lynemouth, Morpeth.		Nil
73.	25. 7.67.	2 Queen Street, Lynemouth, Morpeth.		Nil
74.	25. 7.67.	Municipal Caravan Site, Lynemouth, Morpeth.		Nil
76.	15. 8.67.	68, Swarland Terrace, Red Row, Morpeth.		Nil
77.	15. 8.67.	63 Simonside Terrace, East Chevington, Morpeth.		Nil
78.	15. 8.67.	11 Druridge Avenue, Hadston, Morpeth.		Nil
79.	15. 8.67.	No. 4 Six Cottages, North Broomhill, Morpeth.		Nil
80.	5. 9.67.	Widdrington Co-op, Widdrington, Morpeth.		1 (Type 1)

No.	Date	Place of collection	Result	
			No. of Coliform	Bacilli per 100 ml. of water
81.	5. 9.67.	Joiner's Cottage, Widdrington, Morpeth.		Nil
82.	5. 9.67.	Druridge Farm Cottage, Morpeth.		Nil
83.	5. 9.67.	Colliery Houses, Widdrington Colliery, Morpeth.		Nil
91.	10.10.67.	Ardennes, Felton, Morpeth.		Nil
92.	17.10.67.	Chevington Moor Cottage, Widdrington.		Nil
93.	17.10.67.	No. 2 Widdrington Colliery, Widdrington.		Nil
94.	17.10.67.	No. 8 School Row, Widdrington.		Nil
95.	17.10.67.	Widdrington Co-op Butcher, Widdrington.	1 (Type 1)	
98.	24.10.67.	Widdrington Co-op Society, Widdrington		25
99.	24.10.67.	3 Ena Street, Widdrington Station.		13
100.	31.10.67.	Council Depot, Pegswood, Morpeth.		Nil
101.	31.10.67.	79 East Acres, Widdrington Station.		Nil
102.	31.10.67.	Widdrington Co-op Butcher, Widdrington.		Nil
103.	31.10.67.	"Ashlyne" Mile Road, Widdrington.		Nil
104.	14.11.67.	Hilltop Cottage, Espley.		Nil
105.	14.11.67.	Harelaw, Longhorsley.		Nil
107.	14.11.67.	1 Normandy Terrace, Longhorsley.		Nil
108.	21.11.67.	Whitton Stone Farm, Longwitton.		Nil
109.	21.11.67.	Hilltop Cottage, Longwitton.		Nil
111.	21.11.67.	Dove Cote Cottage, Wallington.		Nil
112.	28.11.67.	14 Oakford, Scots Gap.		Nil
113.	28.11.67.	Middlestead, Front Row, Cambo.		Nil
116.	5.12.67.	Woodside Cottage, Tranwell.		Nil
119.	5.12.67.	Outspan, Hepscott.		Nil

Private Supplies.

1.	10. 1.67.	Meldon Station, Morpeth.		Nil
2.	10. 1.67.	Angerton Steads, Hartburn.		Nil
3.	10. 1.67.	Angerton Station.		Nil
5.	17. 1.67.	Barnes Farm, Netherwitton.		Nil
6.	17. 1.67.	Post Office, Netherwitton.		Nil
10.	31. 1.67.	Needless Hall Farm, Meldon.		Nil
13.	7. 2.67.	Low Heighley Farm, Morpeth.		Nil
15.	7. 2.67.	St. Andrews Hospital, Morpeth.		Nil
16.	7. 2.67.	1 West View, St. Andrews Hospital, Morpeth.		Nil
17.	14. 2.67.	Belamour, Longhorsley, Morpeth.		Nil
18.	14. 2.67.	Ghyllheugh, Longhorsley, Morpeth.	5 (Type 1)	
19.	14. 2.67.	Ghyllheugh, Longhorsley, Morpeth.	5 (Type 1)	
21.	21. 2.67.	Whemleyburn, Longhorsley, Morpeth.	1 (Type 1)	
22.	21. 2.67.	South Linden Farm, Longhorsley.		Nil
23.	21. 2.67.	Barkers Cottage, Linden Hillhead, Longhorsley.		5
24.	21. 2.67.	Linden Hillhead Farm, Longhorsley.		Nil
28.	28. 2.67.	Cresswell Village, Morpeth.		Nil
29.	7. 3.67.	Causey Park Bridge, Morpeth.		Nil
31.	7. 3.67.	Hagg Farm, Causey Park, Morpeth.		Nil
32.	7. 3.67.	West Earsdon Farm, Morpeth.		Nil
33.	21. 3.67.	White Cottage, Lough House, Morpeth.		Nil
34.	21. 3.67.	Abshiel Farm House, Morpeth.		Nil
35.	21. 3.67.	Abshiels Farm, Morpeth.		Nil
36.	21. 3.67.	Stanton House, Morpeth.		Nil
41.	18. 4.67.	Eshottheugh, Felton, Morpeth.		Nil
42.	18. 4.67.	Bockenfield, Felton.		Nil
44.	18. 4.67.	Wintrick Farm, Felton.		1
49.	2. 5.67.	High Southward Edge, Longhorsley.		Nil
50.	2. 5.67.	Low Southward Edge, Longhorsley.		Nil
51.	2. 5.67.	Linden Square, Longhorsley.		Nil
56.	16. 5.67.	The Cafe, Wallington Hall, Cambo.		1
57.	23. 5.67.	Folly House, Netherwitton.	3 (Type 1)	
59.	23. 5.67.	Park Head, Netherwitton.		17
60.	23. 5.67.	Doehill, Netherwitton.		Nil
61.	20. 6.67.	Heighley Gate, Morpeth.		Nil
62.	20. 6.67.	Heighley Gate, Morpeth.		Nil

No.	Date	Place of collection	Result	
			No. of Coliform	Bacilli per 100ml. of water
63.	20. 6.67.	Stantons Cottage, Linden Hillhead.	3 (Type 1)	
65.	4. 7.67.	Horsley High Barns, Longhorsley.	Nil	
66.	4. 7.67.	Linden Hillhead, Longhorsley.	17	
67.	4. 7.67.	Smallburn, Longhorsley.	90	
70.	11. 7.67.	Earsdon Hill, Morpeth.	4 (Type 1)	
75.	25. 7.67.	Cresswell Village.	13	
84.	3.10.67.	The Helm, Felton, Morpeth.	180+	
85.	3.10.67.	Eshott Village, Morpeth.	Nil	
86.	3.10.67.	Burgham Farm, Morpeth.	180+	
87.	3.10.67.	Burgham Farm, Morpeth.	Nil	
88.	10.10.67.	The Helm, Morpeth.	8 (Type 1)	
89.	10.10.67.	Burgham Farm Cottage, Morpeth.	180+	
90.	10.10.67.	Burgham Farm Cottage, Morpeth.	Nil	
96.	24.10.67.	Abbey Mills, Morpeth.	1 (Type 1)	
97.	24.10.67.	Abbey Mills, Morpeth.	Nil	
106.	14.11.67.	Longhorsley Private Supply.	13	
110.	21.11.67.	Rugeley Walls, Cambo.	1 (Type 1)	
114.	28.11.67.	Rugeley Walls, Cambo.	Nil	
115.	28.11.67.	Rugeley Walls, Cambo.	Nil	
117.	5.12.67.	East Edington, Morpeth.	13 (Type 1)	
118.	5.12.67.	No. 2 Cottage, West Edington.	3 (Type 1)	

The results of the examination of the 119 samples collected were as follows:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Public Supply	58	4
Private Supplies	37	20

Unsatisfactory results in every case were investigated and advice and recommendations were made as found necessary to effect improvement.

The private supplies, some of which vary in quality from time to time, are all adequate in quantity.

A total of 165 visits and revisits were made for the purpose of sampling, investigating and advising on water supplies in order to maintain and where possible, improve the quality.

Two samples of water were sent to the public analysts and analysed for plumbo solvency with the following results:-

No. 1.	Lead in parts per million	0.06	P.H. value	8.0
No. 2.	" " " " "	0.02	P.H. value	7.9

The following table indicates the numbers of dwellings and estimated populations within the respective parishes of the rural district supplied with water from public and private sources including those dwellings without an internal supply where water is obtained from standpipes or other source.

Of the dwellings in the latter group, 0.2% of the total, 0.16% receive water from private sources and 0.04% from the public supply.

WATER SUPPLIES

1st January to 31st December, 1967.

Parish	Public supplies Houses	Pop.	Private supplies Houses	Pop.	Standpipes Houses	Pop.
Cresswell	61	195	-	-	-	-
East Chevington	1280	4046	-	-	-	-
Ellington	393	1257	1	2	1	1
Hartburn	51	163	7	20	-	-
Hebron	85	187	26	80	-	-
Hepscott	117	374	2	5	2	5
Longhorsley	166	531	33	98	-	-
Lynemouth	795	2504	-	-	-	-
Longhirst	137	438	1	3	-	-
Meldon	70	224	1	2	1	2
Mitford	110	352	8	20	2	4
Netherwitton	50	160	32	98	-	-
Pegswood	986	3125	-	-	-	-
Thirston	94	300	47	141	3	8
Tritlington	48	153	24	82	1	4
Ulgham	817	2614	-	-	-	-
Wallington	139	444	9	31	1	4
West Chevington	18	57	-	-	-	-
Widdrington	64	204	-	-	-	-
	5481		191		11	

Sewerage and Drainage.

Hepscott Village.

Works on the installation of the sewerage scheme for Hepscott Village were finally completed in February.

Thirston Village.

Although official approval to the installation of a sewerage system for Thirston Village was obtained in March 1966, work on the scheme did not commence until 1967 because of protracted negotiations regarding entry onto the land and discussions with the contractors.

At the end of the year it was estimated that the scheme was some 60% completed.

Ulgham Parish.

Work on the relief sewer and storm water overflow in the Ferneybeds area of Ulgham Parish was completed early in the year thus finally eliminating recurring flooding and attendant risks of danger to health.

Drainage and Conversions.

No applications for grant aid toward the cost of conversion of conservancy type closets under section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were received during the year.

Works of this nature continue to be executed under the provisions of the Housing Acts 1949/1964 together with general improvements to provide all essential amenities.

Fourteen dwellings were improved during the year by these means.

At the end of the year it was estimated that fifty eight privy type closets were still in use within the area, i.e. serving 1.02% of the dwellings in the district.

Desludging Service.

Originated in May 1965 to cater for the needs of private dwellings beyond the reach of public sewers, the desludging service continued to grow in demand and during the year the vehicle travelled 7,563 miles on the performance of these duties and its time in use on the various services was as follows:-

Free service (private dwellings in rural district)	44.32%
Sewerage works and other council services	10.58%
Rechargeable works	26.92%
Out of use (Holidays, sickness etc.)	18.20%

Tanks serving 643 dwellings were provided with the free service during the year at an average cost of 17 shillings and 1.064 pence per dwelling.

Disposal of sludge continues, where this is possible without risk of nuisance or pollution of water courses, over agricultural land in close proximity to the source of collection. On the few occasions where this was not possible, it was discharged together with household refuse at the nearest available disposal site.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse collection throughout the nineteen parishes of the district was satisfactorily maintained during the year without any serious disruption from weather, labour or mechanical breakdown.

The fleet of collection vehicles, unaltered from the previous year, are as follows:-

1 - Rear loading, fore & aft tipping type, 16/18 cu. yds.	(1956)
1 - Rear loading, fore & aft tipping type, 12 cu. yds.	(1961)
1 - Rear loading, fore & aft tipping type, 16/18 cu. yds.	(1962)
1 - Rear loading, compression type Pakamatic 50	(1964)
1 - Rear loading, compression type Pakamatic 35	(1966)

The four larger vehicles were in general day to day operation and the smaller was brought into use in emergency only or for special collections of bulky articles not capable of removal during normal service collections.

In addition to the collection vehicles, a tractor mounted hydraulically operated shovel was used for maintenance of the several disposal sites and its use was responsible for a considerable reduction in nuisance from wind borne litter.

New premises erected in Pegswood Village, and brought into use early in the year, enabled all the vehicles to be housed for the very first time under one roof. Maintenance of plant and vehicles was accomplished with greater comfort and efficiency and the need to employ sub contractors, which lack of space and equipment had previously enforced, was considerably reduced. Not least of the benefits resulting from the new premises was the improvement in road safety conditions.

Refuse Disposal.

For economic reasons, collected refuse continued to be disposed of by tipping onto disposal sites as near as possible to the areas of production. The existing sites at East Chevington, Causey Park, Lynemouth, Longhorsley, Pegswood and Widdrington continued to be used and maintained to the best possible standards within the limits imposed by plant and labour.

A proposal to operate a waste paper salvage scheme was investigated and eventually rejected because of lack of accommodation for handling and storing and the uncertain condition of the market for the baled product.

Investigation was also made into the possibility of operating, in conjunction with neighbouring local authorities, a refuse pulverisation scheme but, despite correspondence with and a visit to the offices of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in London on the matter, no progress had been made at the end of the year.

Informal action under the provisions of section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, resulted in the provision of and or renewal of 151 standard dustbins. In addition 92 dustbins were renewed at Council owned properties and 48 dustbins were supplied to private persons.

Visits for this purpose, together with those for supervision of personnel, maintenance of vehicles, plant and tips and the investigation of complaints were made on 310 separate occasions.

Cost of the Service.

Estimated weight of refuse handled.	9190	tons.
Average per annum amount per dwelling.	32	cwts.
Miles travelled in collection & disposal.	29,605	miles.
Total cost of service	£23,322.	4s. 4d.
Less sundry income	77.	0s. 7d.
	<hr/>	
Nett cost	£23,245.	3s. 9d.
Cost per ton	£2.10s.	6.6d.
Cost per annum per dwelling	£4.	2s. 2d.
Cost per annum per head of population	£1.	5s. 11.5d.
Cost on rates in the £.		11.10d.

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960.

The demand for holiday caravan sites continued and 80 visits were made for the purpose of investigating into and controlling the siting of caravans within the rural district.

The development of the private holiday site for 300 caravans continued slowly and was approximately 40% complete at the end of the year. An application to vary the layout was made and approved. No serious effort was made to provide recreational facilities on this site.

The Council's own holiday caravan site was finally completed with concrete roads, hardstandings and amenities to the standards recommended under the Act and work on the provision of an enlarged recreational building with a shop and first floor club room was commenced and substantially completed by the end of the year.

The demand for residential caravans in the rural district has never been great and, whilst there is not within the district, a site developed or licensed for this purpose, five residential caravans, licensed under the provisions of section 269 Public Health Act, 1936, are sited in various parts of the district. Planning permission to their use is of a temporary nature

and forms a measure of control over this type of residence. Applications for renewal of temporary licences for eight small sites holding eleven caravans used for holiday purposes at Cresswell, were granted and in addition five applications for planning permission for the development of land as holiday caravan sites were received.

Of these applications one was refused, two were withdrawn and the two remaining, not finally resolved.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Council's rodent operative continued with his normal duty of regularly inspecting and treating, as found necessary, all Council surface properties including refuse and sewage disposal sites and also made a bi-annual test of the sewers in the several parishes provided with this amenity.

Regular routine surveys of business and agricultural properties were made as he progressed through the various parishes and work undertaken on any premise was done on a time and material basis. Where necessary employees in premises involved were advised on methods of treatment and proofing.

Assistance was given in sixteen instances for eradication of cockroaches and in six cases for the destruction of wasp nests.

The following table is a copy of the annual return for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, on the rodent control work of the department during the year.

Properties other than sewers.	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	5672	628
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	182	14
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	63	10
(ii) Mice	16	Nil
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	281	23
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	35	15
(ii) Mice	27	4
4. <u>Sewers</u> There was no evidence of infestation of any of the Council's sewers.		

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

There was a total of 56 premises within the area registered under the requirements of the Factories Act, 1961. Six of these premises were without mechanical power.

There were no outworkers within the area.

INSPECTIONS.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	6	18	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in 1 in which sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	30	52	2	NIL
3. Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. outworkers' premises)	20	10	NIL	NIL
Total	56	80	2	NIL

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	8	8	-	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	1	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10	10	-	2	-

Informal action was all that was necessary to remedy the defects recorded.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE YEAR 1967.

Number of Houses completed during the year.

a) By Local Authority	40
b) By any other Housing Authority.	106
c) By Private Persons	60

Closing and Demolition.

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	NIL
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	1
3. Houses closed, not demolished	NIL
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above	6

Repairs.

Houses made fit by procedure under either Housing or P.H. Acts.

1. By informal action	28
2. By owners, following statutory notice	NIL
3. By Local Authority in default of owners	NIL
4. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction	NIL

Houses Patched.

1. Houses in Clearance Areas still in use at end of year for temporary accommodation	NIL
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Clearance Programme.

1. Number of unfit houses in clearance programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year	244
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IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

No. of separate houses

Discretionary Grants.

1. Applications submitted to L.A.	4
2. Applications rejected	NIL
3. Applications approved	4
4. Approximate average grant approved per house	£354
5. Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since inception of scheme	608

Standard Grants.

	<u>During the Year</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
1. Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	14	86
2. Number of houses so provided with:		
a) Bath or shower	13	69
b) Wash hand basin	13	71
c) Hot water supply	13	60
d) Water closet	16	78
e) Food store	13	45

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Control of licensing and use of the Special Designations, Untreated, Pasteurised and Sterilized, remains with the Northumberland County Council as the Food & Drugs Authority and milk sampling within the district was undertaken by the County Health Inspector.

Twenty seven samples were collected and tested during the year with the following results:-

From Distributors within the Rural District (6)

Pasteurised	16
Untreated	3

From Distributors outside the Rural District (4)

Pasteurised	3
Untreated	5

With one exception all samples satisfied the prescribed tests, the exception being a pasteurised milk which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue test.

Biological examination of untreated milk for tuberculosis and brucellosis was undertaken on two occasions with negative results.

Brucellosis.

In addition to the work of the County Health Inspector the department assisted by collecting milk samples from herds producing milk for retail sale in its raw or untreated state as recommended by the Ministry of Health in their circular 17/66. A total of 45 samples were collected from the milk produced by ten separate herds.

The result of the ring test of these samples was *Brucella Abortus* Negative in each case.

Food Premises.

Food premises within the Rural District number 113 and by type of business this number is made up as follows:-

General Dealers, Grocers, etc.	48
School Kitchens & Dining Rooms	16
Public Houses	12
Clubs	9
Butchers	6
Industrial Canteens	6
Fried Fish Shops	3
Hospitals and Institutions	2
Bakers & Confectioners	2
Slaughterhouses	3
Cafes	2
Cafes (seasonal)	2
Chemists	2

Of these premises 49 are registered under the requirements of section 16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955 as under:-

Sale of Ice Cream	42
Manufacture & sale of Ice Cream	1
Manufacture of sausages & preserved meats	6

Visits to food premises were made on 924 separate occasions and a satisfactory standard of hygiene was maintained. All traders were encouraged to maintain high standards of hygiene by visiting and by the distribution and use of educational posters etc., as available.

Meat and Other Foods.

There are three licensed private slaughterhouses in the Rural District all of which are constructed and improved to the standard required by the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

In accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered was maintained.

Details of Animals Slaughtered and Examined.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	517	Nil	Nil	1317	439
Number examined	517	Nil	Nil	1317	439
<u>All diseases, except tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned	156	Nil	Nil	39	29
<u>Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>	.302	Nil	Nil	.03	.07
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Percentage affected with tuberculosis</u>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Percentage affected with cysticercosis</u>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In addition the following articles were found unfit for human consumption and surrendered to the Public Health Inspector.

Ox Kidneys - Frozen	13 lbs.	8 ozs.
Imported Rabbits - Frozen	23 lbs.	-
Chicken	2 lbs.	14 ozs.
Ham	25 lbs.	3 ozs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1955.

Under section 3 of the above mentioned Act, sixteen licenses to slaughter animals were issued, all of which were renewals.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The following table is a copy of the information supplied to H.M. Inspector of Factories for the year ending 31.12.1967.

From this it will be seen that the total number of premises registered was 51 and that one of these was a new registration during the year.

No. and Type of Premises Registered.

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during year.	Total number of registered Premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises inspected during the year.
Offices	-	9	6
Retail shops	1	32	30
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments, canteens	-	9	9
Fuel storage depots	-	1	1
Totals	1	51	46

Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises:

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed.
Offices	38
Retail shops	174
Wholesale departments, warehouses	Nil
Catering establishments open to public	64
Canteens	Nil
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	277
Total Males	106
Total Females	171

No applications for exemptions regarding space, temperature, sanitary conveniences or washing facilities were received during the year. This is a repetition of the circumstances in the previous year.

Statutory action for infringements of the Act was not required. Most were of a minor nature and immediately remedied informally.

Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963.

This Act is designed to secure certain minimum standards of comfort for animals, including temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness etc., adequate food and water supplies and means of isolation in cases of infections or contagious disease. One application was received and one license issued during the year for premises capable of housing six dogs and two cats.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

Two applications for registration as Scrap Metal Dealers were received during the year and Certificates of Registration issued.

This brings the total of registered premises within the district to eight.

